

infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes.

S. 1678. An act to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 3501. A bill to provide a 77-day extension of certain authorities for foreign intelligence and international terrorism investigations, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 3502. A bill to delay the implementation date of the current expected credit losses methodology for estimating allowances for credit losses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3503. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 544. A resolution supporting the designation of March 2020 as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 3129

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3129, a bill to provide for certain reforms with respect to the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 3501. A bill to provide a 77-day extension of certain authorities for foreign intelligence and international terrorism investigations, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3501

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SEVENTY-SEVEN-DAY EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ACCESS CERTAIN BUSINESS RECORDS FOR FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM INVESTIGATIONS AND FOR ROVING SURVEILLANCE.

Section 102(b)(1) of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-177; 50 U.S.C. 1805 note) is amended by striking "March 15, 2020" and inserting "May 30, 2020".

SEC. 2. SEVENTY-SEVEN-DAY EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR INDIVIDUAL TERRORISTS TO BE TREATED AS AGENTS OF FOREIGN POWERS UNDER THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT OF 1978.

Section 6001(b)(1) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 50 U.S.C. 1801 note) is amended by striking "March 15, 2020" and inserting "May 30, 2020".

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act take effect on March 14, 2020.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3503. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 3503

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a program of education approved by a State approving agency, or the Secretary of Veterans Affairs when acting in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted from being offered on-site at an educational institution to being offered by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may continue to provide educational assist-

ance under the laws administered by the Secretary without regard to such conversion, including with respect to paying any—

(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code; or

(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of such title and chapters 1606 and 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) APPLICABILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a) shall apply during the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2020.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term "educational institution" has the meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code, and includes an institution of higher learning (as defined in such section).

(2) PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The term "program of education" has the meaning given that term in section 3002 of title 38, United States Code.

(3) STATE APPROVING AGENCY.—The term "State approving agency" has the meaning given that term in section 3671 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 544—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 2020 AS "NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 544

Whereas colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among men and women combined in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that, in 2020, 147,950 individuals in the United States will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approximately 53,200 individuals will die from the disease;

Whereas colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable forms of cancer because screening tests can allow for the discovery and removal of polyps before the polyps become cancerous;

Whereas screening tests can detect colorectal cancer early, which is when the disease is most treatable;

Whereas the Secretary of Health and Human Services estimates that if every individual 50 years of age or older had regular screening tests, as many as 60 percent of deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for patients with localized colorectal cancer is 90 percent, but only 39 percent of all diagnoses occur at this stage;

Whereas screening tests can reduce the incidence of colorectal cancer and mortality, but approximately 1 in 3 adults between 50 and 75 years of age are not current with recommended colorectal cancer screening;

Whereas educational efforts can help inform the public on methods to prevent and screen for, as well as detect early symptoms of, colorectal cancer; and

Whereas public awareness and educational campaigns on colorectal cancer prevention, screening, and symptoms are held during the month of March each year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of March 2020 as “National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month”; and

(B) the goals and ideals of National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate awareness and educational activities.

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO TREAT CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION PURSUED AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of S. 3503, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the title of the bill.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3503) to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the bill, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 3503) was passed as follows:

S. 3503

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a program of education approved by a State approving

agency, or the Secretary of Veterans Affairs when acting in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted from being offered on-site at an educational institution to being offered by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may continue to provide educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary without regard to such conversion, including with respect to paying any—

(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code; or

(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of such title and chapters 1606 and 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) APPLICABILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a) shall apply during the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and ending on December 21, 2020.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term “educational institution” has the meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code, and includes an institution of higher learning (as defined in such section).

(2) PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The term “program of education” has the meaning given that term in section 3002 of title 38, United States Code.

(3) STATE APPROVING AGENCY.—The term “State approving agency” has the meaning given that term in section 3671 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 17; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous con-

sent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:19 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

RODNEY K. BROWN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 13, 2024, VICE JEFFREY S. HALL, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JAMES H. ANDERSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE DAVID JOEL TRACHTENBERG, RESIGNED.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

NANCY B. BECK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2018, VICE ANN MARIE BUERKLE, TERM EXPIRED.

NANCY B. BECK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, VICE ELLIOT F. KAYE.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ROBERT JOSEPH KRUCKEMEYER, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2022, VICE DOROTHY KOSINSKI, TERM EXPIRED.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICES

RICHARD GIACOLONE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION DIRECTOR, VICE ALLISON BECK, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

MARVIN KAPLAN, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 27, 2025. (REAPPOINTMENT)

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

ANDREA R. LUCAS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2025, VICE VICTORIA A. LIPNIC, TERM EXPIRING.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

LAUREN MCGARITY MCFERRAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING DECEMBER 16, 2024. (REAPPOINTMENT)

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

JOCELYN SAMUELS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2021, VICE CONSTANCE SMITH BARKER, TERM EXPIRED.

KEITH E. SONDERLING, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2024, VICE CHARLOTTE A. BURROWS, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. EUGENE H. BLACK III

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

WILLIAM A. FORBES

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES G. BUCKLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MICHAEL G. MATSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624: